REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application in condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 11-16, 19-21, 24 and 25 are pending in this application.

Claims 3, 8, 10, 17, 18, 22 and 23 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Independent claim 1 incorporates allowable subject matter of claim 3, independent claim 6 incorporates allowable subject matter of claim 10, independent claim 16 incorporates allowable subject matter of claim 18 and independent claim 21 incorporates allowable subject matter of claim 23. Previous dependent claims 4, 5, 12, 14, 19, 20, 24 and 25, which were indicated as allowable, are presented in independent form. Therefore, Applicant submits independent claims 1, 4-6, 12, 14, 16, 19-21, 24 and 25 are allowable.

The remaining claims are dependent upon an allowed independent claim and are, therefore, allowable.

Claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph for lacking antecedent basis. Applicants have canceled claim 3 and amended claims 4 and 5, which now comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejections are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, for this paper to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted, FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

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